

Appln No. 10/805,888
Amdt date March 15, 2007
Reply to Office action of January 4, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method performed by one or more computers for identifying content in a computer network, the method comprising:
 - storing a plurality of predetermined categories in a database;
 - categorizing a plurality of pre-existing items corresponding to one or more of the plurality of predetermined categories, by a plurality of categorizers, respectively;
 - displaying at least a portion of the stored plurality of predetermined categories;
 - displaying respective categorizers for the displayed predetermined categories;
 - selecting a category from the ~~plurality of~~ displayed predetermined categories by a user;
 - selecting a categorizer from the ~~plurality of~~ displayed categorizers by the user;
 - initiating a search for one or more pre-existing items in the computer network ~~corresponding to~~ based on the selected category and the selected categorizer as search parameters; and
 - displaying results of the search on a display.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising signing up on a web site as an authorized user.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising ordering the displayed search results based on a user selectable order.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of categorizing comprises signing up on a website as a categorizer and categorizing a plurality of items corresponding to one or more of the plurality of predetermined categories.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising charging a fee for initiating the search for the one or more items.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising assigning points to a categorizer based on number of users who have searched an item categorized by the categorizer.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising compensating the categorizer based on the assigned points.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising positioning the categorizer on a favorable screen position of a display screen, based on the assigned points to the categorizer.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying a list of categorizers on a display screen.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the list of categorizers displayed on the display screen is ordered based on one or more of a respective categorizer's overall popularity within the selected category, a respective categorizer's recent popularity within the selected category, a respective categorizer's overall popularity within a broader subject area than the selected category, a respective categorizer's recent popularity within a broader subject area than the selected category, a respective categorizer's reliability within a user-specified subject area, and a respective categorizer's reliability within a broad subject area.

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12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of predetermined categories relates to music.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of predetermined categories relates to movies.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of predetermined categories relates to books.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of predetermined categories relates to web pages.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of predetermined categories relates to security or intelligence content.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of predetermined categories relates to a product or a service.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the product or the service is one or more of art, craft, wine, cheese, beer, plumbing, air conditioning, auto repair, haircutting, legal service, and medical service.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for categorizing an item to be searched by a user in a computer network, the method comprising:

accessing a web site by an authorized categorizer;

identifying the item to be categorized;

displaying a category from a plurality of predetermined categories stored in a database accessible by the web site;

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selecting a category from a the displayed plurality of predetermined categories ~~stored in a database accessible by the web site~~ by the authorized categorizer;

displaying ~~financial terms~~ cost and incentive for the authorized categorizer for the selected category;

applying the selected category to the identified item by the authorized categorizer; and

storing the identified item ~~[[and]]~~ the applied category, and the authorized categorizer in the database.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising signing up on a web site as an authorized user.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising
selecting a category from a plurality of predetermined categories;
selecting a categorizer from a plurality of categorizers; and
initiating a search for an item in the computer network corresponding to the selected category and the selected categorizer.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising displaying results of the search on a display.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising ordering the displayed search results based on a user selectable order.

24. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising charging the categorizer a fee for categorizing the item.

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25. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising assigning points to a second categorizer based on number of users who have searched an item categorized by the second categorizer.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising compensating the second categorizer based on the assigned points.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, further comprising positioning the second categorizer on a favorable screen position of a display screen, based on the assigned points to the second categorizer.

28. (Currently Amended) A system for identifying content in a computer network comprising:

means for storing a plurality of predetermined categories;

means for categorizing a plurality of pre-existing items corresponding to one or more of the plurality of predetermined categories, by a plurality of categorizers, respectively;

means for displaying at least a portion of the stored plurality of predetermined categories;

means for displaying respective categorizers for the displayed predetermined categories;

means for selecting a category from the ~~plurality of~~ displayed predetermined categories by a user;

means for selecting a categorizer from the ~~plurality of~~ displayed categorizers by the user;

means for initiating a search for one or more pre-existing items in the computer network ~~corresponding to~~ based on the selected category and the selected categorizer as search parameters; and

means for displaying results of the search.

29. (Original) The system of claim 28, further comprising means for signing up on a web site as an authorized user.

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30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, further comprising means for ordering the displayed search results based on a user selectable order.

32. (Original) The system of claim 28, wherein means for categorizing comprises means for signing up on a website as a categorizer and means for categorizing a plurality of items corresponding to one or more of the plurality of predetermined categories.

33. (Original) The system of claim 28, further comprising means for charging a fee for initiating the search for the one or more items.

34. (Original) The system of claim 28, further comprising means for assigning points to a categorizer based on number of users who have searched an item categorized by the categorizer.

35. (Original) The system of claim 34, further comprising means for compensating the categorizer based on the assigned points.

36. (Original) The system of claim 28, further comprising means for positioning the categorizer on a favorable screen position of a display screen, based on the assigned points to the categorizer.

37. (Original) The system of claim 28, wherein at least one of the plurality of predetermined categories relates to a product or a service.

38. (Currently Amended) A system for categorizing an item to be searched by a user in a computer network comprising:

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means for accessing a web site by an authorized categorizer;

means for identifying the item to be categorized;

means for displaying a category from a plurality of predetermined categories stored in a database accessible by the web site;

means for selecting a category from ~~[[a]]~~ the displayed plurality of predetermined categories ~~stored in a database accessible by the web site~~ by the authorized categorizer;

means for displaying ~~financial terms~~ cost and incentive for the authorized categorizer for the selected category;

means for applying the selected category to the identified item by the authorized categorizer; and

means for storing the identified item ~~[[and]]~~ the applied category, and the authorized categorizer in the database..

39. (Original) The system of claim 38, further comprising means for signing up on a web site as an authorized user.

40. (Previously Presented) The-system of claim 39, further comprising
means for selecting a category from a plurality of predetermined categories;
means for selecting a categorizer from a plurality of categorizers; and
means for initiating a search for an item in the computer network corresponding to the selected category and the selected categorizer.